

ABSTRACT

A simple, robust and precise instrument for constructing tissue arrays. The instrument includes multiple punches mounted on a punch platform, the punch platform displaceable between precisely defined positions. Mechanical détentes or stops are provided which mechanically arrest the movement of the punch platform in the precisely defined positions. This arrangement greatly saves time and improves accuracy over use of conventional precision linear positioning means. By the simple step of moving the punch platform from a first position to a second position, either punch can be quickly brought into operating position (and the other moved into a non-interfering position) by either manually or by automatic means, making it possible to quickly alternate from one punch to the other.